

S/N 09/509,449

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | AOYAGI et al. | Examiner: | Zachariah Lucas |
| Serial No.: | 09/509,449 | Group Art Unit: | 1648 |
| Filed: | 28 March 2000 | Docket No.: | 00594.0352USWO |
| Title: | METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS | | |

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an European Office Action mailed 17 November 2006. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the European Office Action.

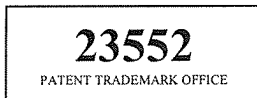
This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.


Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: 30 July 2007

By 
Brian H. Batzli
Reg. No. 32,960

BHB/cjc

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| FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number: 00594.0352USWO | Application Number: 09/509,449 |
| | Applicant: AOYAGI et al. | |
| | Filing Date: 28 March 2000 | Group Art Unit: 1648 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
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| | EP 0 967 484 | 12/1999 | Europe | | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
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23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant. | |